

Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

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BEAK GRASS

(*Diarrhena americana*)

Federal Status: Not Listed

State Status: Endangered

Description:

Beak grass grows about 3 feet tall with arching, dark green leaves which may be nearly 1 inch wide. The name “beak grass” comes from its fruits, which have a conspicuous blunt beak at the tip.



Habitat: This native Wisconsin plant is a perennial of wet woods, such as floodplain forests and shaded river banks. In some cases it also grows on the bank above the floodplain level.

Forestry Considerations: In those lowland woods where beak grass has been found, it is best to use single-tree or group-selection



silviculture
conducted during
the wintertime.
Then the ground is
solidly frozen and it
is easier to avoid
damaging this grass.

